

17th German-Polish Intergovernmental Consultations

Berlin, 1 December 2025

Joint Declaration

Germany and Poland are neighbours, indispensable partners and Allies in times when economic and security foundations of our countries are severely challenged. The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia's aggressive hybrid actions in Europe and beyond as well as global economic shifts force us to re-think established policies that do not stand the test of our times. Deeply rooted in the European Union and in NATO, Germany and Poland ambitiously strive to secure the well-being of our people. Convinced of the need to continue the Polish-German reconciliation process, we share a deep understanding that today's bond between Germany and Poland is a promise to future generations of a peaceful, prosperous, democratic and united Europe. We take responsibility for this Europe and work together for its success. To this end, we will deepen our cooperation also within the EU and continue to consult at all levels. In this vein, our bilateral dialogue spans all areas of society, politics, economy and security. Today's 17th Intergovernmental Consultations are a symbol of this deep and trusting partnership.

Security and Defence

Faced with Russia's unprovoked and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine and the threat Russia poses to the security of our countries and to the whole Euro-Atlantic area, we reaffirm our unwavering commitment to increase our partnership on security and defence matters, both bilaterally as well as in the EU and NATO. The strengthening of our political dialogue, military engagement, defence industrial cooperation and resilient infrastructures remain paramount instruments to achieve that objective.

Support to Ukraine

Germany and Poland work together to increase pressure on Moscow to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace for Ukraine and Europe. We will intensify this pressure by imposing additional restrictive measures and tightening our sanctions regimes. All those engaged in fuelling the war machine of Russia should be targeted by these measures. We will continue to support Ukraine in all dimensions, including military assistance, financial support, economic recovery and its integration with the EU. This includes developing further measures to use the immobilised Russian Sovereign Assets as well as our participation in NATO's and

other multinational initiatives focused on the delivery of military aid to Ukraine and the maintenance of Ukrainian equipment. We are also committed to further support the establishment and development of the NATO-Ukraine Joint Analysis, Training and Education Centre (JATEC) in Bydgoszcz, an important pillar of practical cooperation with the aim to identify and apply lessons from Russia's war against Ukraine and increase Ukraine's interoperability with NATO.

We will continue our cooperation to secure and defend the EU's external borders in accordance with EU and international law. Particular importance is attached to the EU's eastern border, which continues to face aggressive actions by Russia and Belarus, including weaponization of migration and hybrid threats. In this context, Poland and Germany fully support EU initiatives and measures to further strengthening the protection and resilience of the eastern border.

Collective Defence

The security of Germany and Poland is inseparably intertwined. This shared understanding is the driving force behind our growing security and defence cooperation and common commitment to the security of the whole Eastern Flank through – among others – our military deployments to the Forward Land Forces in the Baltic States and the Polish investments in the East Shield project correlated with the Baltic Defence Line. We will continue our cooperation to further strengthen NATO deterrence and defence in our region.

The German contribution to the protection of NSATU's logistics enabling node with PATRIOT Air Defence batteries and the support of air policing in Poland in 2025 are also excellent showcases of cooperation in support of the shared security objectives. We are working together to defend the air space of the Alliance through the enhanced Vigilance Activity (eVA) "Eastern Sentry". Germany will continue to work with Polish Armed Forces to help safeguard Poland's air space, e.g. through the deployment of German Eurofighter jets to the Polish airbase Malbork within the framework of NATO Air Policing.

One of the key topics are the current challenges to the resilience, safety and security of the entire region – today in particular challenged by security threats from drones and other unmanned aerial objects. Germany and Poland will contribute with urgency to the development of common standards for the detection and neutralisation of these unmanned aerial vehicles and will rapidly exchange technological knowledge and best practices in this area.

In the maritime domain, security, resilient connectivity and trade in the Baltic Sea remain our key priorities, with particular emphasis on preventing and responding to infrastructure disruptions and threats on critical infrastructure, as well as countering the illegal practices of the shadow fleet used by Russia. We will take all necessary measures to counter these threats. We work together to assure NATO's long-term engagement in the security of the region building upon eVA "Baltic Sentry". We will strengthen our bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the framework of the maritime Headquarters Commander Task Force (CTF) - Baltic. Germany and Poland stand for the further development of CTF Baltic including the rotation of the headquarters' location.

In the land domain we will continue our cooperation aimed at ensuring optimal Allied force posture in the Eastern Flank, command and control and executability of NATO defence plans. Both Armed Forces will further intensify their common exercise activities starting in 2026. We develop the Multinational Corps Northeast as a warfighting corps and cornerstone on the Eastern Flank. The allocation of corps troops and capabilities is essential to enable the corps.

We will cooperate to ensure that the level of our presence in the NATO Command Structure is adequate to our contribution to NATO deterrence and defence activities.

We will work closely to strengthen Polish national defence initiative "East Shield".

Enablement and military mobility

We will continue our efforts in fostering military enablement and military mobility cooperation including prepositioning of stocks which ensures the seamless movement of military personnel and material through our territories and create favourable conditions for potential reinforcement. We will also jointly advocate in NATO for the endorsement of the project to ensure reliable and resilient fuel supply system in NATO including the expansion of the NATO Pipeline System from Germany to Poland and work together to synchronize and speed up its delivery timeline. Our work strands also reflect our common ambition to strengthen civilian defence and resilience.

Defence Industry Cooperation

We will further intensify and support the cooperation of our defence industries – fostering security, business opportunities and employment. We will continue to consequently address capability gaps, fostering interoperability through cooperative procurement and investing in modern systems, based on NATO capability targets and making the best use of EU instruments. We will work on cooperation within EU's Prioritised Capability Areas and other EU's

initiatives. We will also identify further projects to optimise integrated logistics and in-service support across all domains – space, cyber, air, land, and sea.

To further assess areas of security and defence cooperation and identify specific bilateral projects, we have agreed to set up a working group at the level of Ministries of Defence. Its work will be conducted in parallel but separately from the negotiations of the new Defence Agreement to be prepared by the Ministries of Defence and signed in 2026. Continuing our Structured Strategic Defence Dialogue will support our common security and defence efforts.

Connectivity, Economy and Energy

As close partners in the heart of Europe, both countries have forged a strong, interconnected partnership. For such deeply intertwined economic partners, social and economic cooperation is the prerequisite for prosperity in our countries. We recognize that Europe is at a critical juncture and the foundations of its prosperity are under severe pressures. We agree that it is crucial to reinforce EU competitiveness by simplifying existing legislation e.g. via a constant stream of further Omnibus proposals (including with regards to energy as well as to supply of LNG and crude oil) and legislative self-restraint by all actors, by boosting industrial competitiveness, implementing an ambitious Single Market Strategy.

We underline the importance of a European industrial policy that fosters an industrial transformation that is economically sound, enhances innovation and productivity, modernizes industrial facilities and diversifies energy supply sources, routes and directions – thereby strengthening Europe's manufacturing base, securing high-quality jobs and maintaining a competitive industry in Europe.

Germany and Poland will explore the potential for further cooperation in promoting the digital economy, smart infrastructure in energy, smart city and e-health, as well as cross-border projects on energy. Additionally, we aim to strengthen our cooperation on Artificial Intelligence.

As neighbours and deeply intertwined economic partners, social and economic connectivity is the prerequisite for prosperity in our countries. Both Germany and Poland have made efforts to modernize cross-border rail connections in recent years and have thus strengthened economic and social ties. The further expansion of services offered by long-distance rail operators at the end of 2025 illustrates the impact of these infrastructure investments. Ongoing works on modernization of further cross-border railway lines are being pursued with

high priority, for example Angermünde – Szczecin. The ambitious CPK high-speed network in Poland will mark the next milestone, further accelerating and increasing the frequency of cross-border connections. This positive development gives cause to consider additional improvements in cross-border rail transport.

Therefore, we have agreed to enhance the cooperation between the Transport Ministries by setting up a Ministerial Dialogue in order to facilitate the modernisation of bridges, highways and rail lines as a high priority. In the coming months, the Ministries will sign a Memorandum of Understanding, aiming at enhancing cross-border transport competitiveness and connectivity of the region. Among other things, the discussions in the Ministerial Dialogue will explore (a) the development of cross-border rail links as a strategic priority, (b) the implementation of new infrastructure projects responding to the growing needs of passenger and freight transport, (c) the ways to increase the capacity of current transport corridors (Warsaw-Berlin, Kraków-Wrocław-Zielona Góra-Berlin, Gdańsk-Szczecin-Berlin and Przemyśl-Kraków-Wrocław-Dresden/Leipzig) and (d) if and how – supported by an analysis of potential – to develop alternative routes in view to support the expansion of rail services and reduce travel times. The Ministers will also jointly seek increased European funding for these efforts. Furthermore, joint analyses will be launched on the potential of the Warsaw-Berlin high-speed rail line, taking into account its relevance for civil, economic and defence mobility.

The parties will further continue cooperation on the development of the Oder Waterway.

To facilitate smooth travel between our countries, we will improve road border-crossing infrastructure near Frankfurt/Oder by the end of 2025.

All these infrastructure endeavours will also take into account the potential for dual-use, synchronized in the Military Mobility Model Corridor initiative between the Netherlands, Germany and Poland.

Poland and Germany agree that their shared interest in energy security calls for coordinated efforts aimed at achieving full and permanent independence from energy resources of Russian origin. Both countries will work closely to ensure the stability of fuel supplies across the Polish-German border region. They agree on gradual transition to zero-emission mobility, focusing specifically on reviewing the cross-border deployment of charging infrastructure for cars and trucks.

We will deepen our high-level dialogue and engagement to strengthen just transition of lignite and coal regions as well as our civil protection mechanisms in reference to the impacts of climate change.

Remembrance

The year 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the ending of the Second World War.

Remembrance and commemoration remain a central aspect of our bilateral relations in view of Germany's enduring responsibility for the crimes committed against Poland in the years 1939-45.

In this vein, Germany reaffirms its commitment to swiftly build a permanent memorial, dedicated to Polish citizens, victims of the Second World War and Nazi tyranny from 1939 to 1945, at the site of the former Kroll Opera House, as stipulated in the coalition agreement for this legislative period. Germany will announce the architecture competition for the memorial in the first half of 2026. The first step will be to nominate the jury, comprising of experts from Germany and Poland.

The Federal government will examine possibilities of providing further support to Polish victims of the Nazi aggression and the German occupation of Poland 1939-1945.

Germany and Poland strive to close the painful chapter of the past and recognize that there is a never expiring obligation to resolve the issue of restitution of cultural property that has been unlawfully removed due to occupation or war. Germany will return such cultural property stored in German public institutions. This will be assessed on a case by case basis, individually and systematically, considering Polish restitution requests.

In this spirit, Germany today is handing over 73 parchment documents from the Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw and the “Head of James the Elder” as a part of a sculpture from Malbork Castle. Poland welcomes this initiative and considers it extremely important in paving the way for further restitutions of abovementioned cultural property from Germany to Poland.

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, hybrid threats, economic challenges, increasing pressure from authoritarian forces: now more than ever, we must stand strong and united to secure the well-being of our people. On 17 June 2026 we will celebrate the 35th anniversary of the German-Polish Neighbourhood Treaty. We are committed to use this opportunity to

forge even closer ties for our future cooperation as indispensable neighbours, Allies and partners.